

# Historical Museum Celebrates Fifth Birthday



Charles and Ruth Gilb celebrate the Arcadia Historical Museum's fifth anniversary with Council member Bob Harbicht at an event held earlier this month. - Photo by Terry Miller

By TRACI KRATZER

The Ruth and Charles Gilb Arcadia Historical Museum recently celebrated its 5th anniversary with plenty of city officials and community leaders taking part in the special occasion.

The anniversary celebration took place on Sunday, October 22 at the Arcadia Community Center.

Crowds of people en-

joyed the celebration activities and took time to reflect on the museum's five year history.

The historical museum opened on October 31, 2001.

But the moment to celebrate the museum's birthday didn't stop at one celebration. On Saturday, a mini fall carnival with games (and prizes), crafts for adults and children, face painting, balloons, a toddler farmland jumper and more

was held outside the museum. There were plenty of fun things to do and eat for all guests of the birthday party, from munchies there was popcorn, cupcakes and sno-cones and a good time was had by all who attended the free event.

## History of the Ruth and Charles Gilb Arcadia Historical Museum

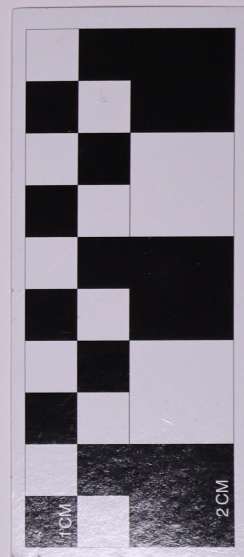
The building was con-

structed as a joint effort of the Arcadia Historical Society and the City of Arcadia and is named in honor of its lead donors. The Ruth and Charles Gilb Foundation donated \$400,000 to kick off the fund-raising campaign for the new museum. Major donors include the City of Arcadia, H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation, Oak Tree Racing Association, and Santa Anita Park. Community organizations and citizens contributed generously to the building fund.

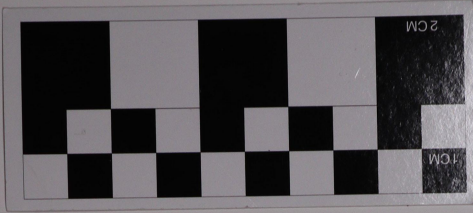
Museum exhibitions follow a timeline of the development of Arcadia and include artifacts and ephemera from the collection started in 1952 by the Arcadia Historical Society. Items reflect the area's unique history and include Baldwin Family treasures, numerous photographs of bygone landmarks such as the Ross Field Balloon School and Anoakia, period furnishings, and civic artifacts. Special exhibits, such as Seabiscuit: An American Icon and Daring Dames: Women's Firsts in Arcadia, make repeat visits to the Museum a must.

The current Historical Museum was made possible by a generous contribution from Ruth and Charles Gilb. Support from the City, funding obtained through grants, and donations from the community enable the Museum to stay in operation, to add to its collection and to host a variety of exhibitions and special events. The Museum is truly a labor of love. It is home to things that commemorate our 100+ years of history and showcase our rich heritage.

In its short time of operation, the "new" Museum has become home to many Arcadia treasures, artifacts and memories. With the support of the City of Arcadia, the Historical Museum Commission and the Arcadia Historical Society, numerous exhibitions and events have taken place, hundreds of children have toured the building to learn about our community's past, and Arcadians young and old have celebrated the wonder of our unique corner of the world and how it has evolved over the last 103 years.







## Linda Garcia

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**From:** 20093-return-329-15200735@lb.bcentral.com on behalf of City of Arcadia  
[ArcadiaMail@ci.arcadia.ca.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 03, 2006 10:20 AM  
**To:** Linda Garcia  
**Subject:** ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER RAISES OVER \$9,000 FOR THE ARCADIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ruth and Charles Gilb Arcadia Historical Museum's 5th Anniversary Dinner - A Sunday Soiree - was a huge success. The evening was fun, festive and...\$9,370.00 was raised for the Arcadia Historical Society, to be used for their educational and cultural programs. Thank you to everyone who attended the dinner and who made a donation. With your continued support, the Historical Society and the Historical Museum will be able to preserve Arcadia's heritage, and our memories, for many more years.

Remember to stop by the Museum in the next couple of months to participate in their many holiday activities. Watch for details in the next City Newsletter and Recreation/Library/Museum Guide, due in your mailbox by early December.

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**ArcadiaMail Message**  
**November 3, 2006**

Ruth,  
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Linda